

## NO VANDALISM IN THE SCHOOLBOY IS THE SCHOOLBOY His Desk Is Guiltless of Mark of Knife.

### NO LONGER DESTRUCTIVE

Eminent Is His Respect for the Paraphernalia of Education—Development of Ideals.

Where are the school desks of yesterday? What has become of the ancient school furniture, carved and mutilated by the schoolboy's knife?

The question a short time ago inspired the Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Stuart, to reflective and interesting remarks on present-day discipline in the public schools.

The loss of seventy-five discarded school desks is just now being made by the District to the National Junior Republic. It is safe to say that not one of them presents the appearance that the common school desk of twenty years ago would have.

#### Latter-Day Reverence.

The respect which the average school boy of today manifests for school property is undoubtedly remarkable in the minds of those whose memories run back to their own school days, when the school furniture and premises used to be the favorite field for the lawless use of jackknife and pencil.

Few evidences of vandalism, comparatively, are now to be seen in the public schools of Washington. Superintendent Stuart in his recent annual report took occasion to express his gratification at this fact.

He credited it to the development of these ideals which place a distinct educative and moral value on a sanitary and attractive environment for the pupil. He gives two reasons for the passing of the vandalism of the past, which prevailed among school boys a quarter of a century ago.

#### Motor Activities Directed.

"The first," he says, "lies in the fact that the motor activities of the child, which are impetuous of restraint, and which indeed should not be restrained, but guided, when they are directed by the skilled teacher toward useful ends, are changed from dreaded instruments of harm to one's neighbor, into peaceful and productive agents for the accomplishment of good."

"These motor activities in boy or man are bound to manifest something when not controlled by a purposeful intelligence."

The superintendent credits the manual training school with a share in the control of the intelligent exercise of the child's bodily activities.

#### Improved Environments.

But he terms the improved environment of the schools the "silent but powerful agent" in lifting the ideals of the pupils and lightening the task of the teacher.

The modern school room differs from most schools of former years in having pure air, walls hung with pictures, and adorned with other works of art, window boxes with growing plants, tasteful arrangement of flowers, autumn leaves, fruits, and decorative plants, pleasing tints upon the walls, better architectural effects in the construction of the building, and an occasional flower bed or clambering vine.

### FIRST IN A SERIES OF POPULAR LECTURES

The committee on free lectures to the people, under the auspices of the Board of Education, has arranged for a course of ten lectures, to be given on successive Friday evenings in the lecture hall of the Public Library.

The first in the series will be given by W. H. H. Smith, of the Bureau of Steam Engineering of the Navy Department, who will speak on "Our New Navy," on Friday, January 20, at 6:30 p. m. The lecture will be illustrated by the stereopticon. The public is cordially invited. It is expected this will be one of the most attractive courses of those arranged for under the auspices of the Board of Education. Several Senators and Representatives have promised to speak. As soon as subjects and speakers are more definitely arranged, announcements will be made.

### CITIZENS DIVERTED FROM SERIOUS BUSINESS

But little business was transacted at last night's meeting of the Takoma Park Citizens' Association, the minds of most of the members being occupied with the coming rehearsal for Saturday, "The Deed of the Skul," which will be given at Takoma Park tonight, and the profits resulting therefrom used for the general beautification of the suburb.

The play will be presented tonight and tomorrow evening, at 8 o'clock, in Takoma Hall. The cast has been drawn entirely from the residents of Takoma Park, and a large attendance is promised.

### MEETING TO DISCUSS TWO PROPOSED LAWS

Two measures are now being advocated before Congress. The first has already become a bill, and is entitled, "To create a board for the condemnation of insanitary buildings in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes."

This bill has passed the House of Representatives, and is now awaiting favorable action in a subcommittee of the Senate. The other measure looks to the establishment of free public playgrounds in the District of Columbia. The Commissioners, the Board of Education, and the Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds have asked for the assistance of Congress in the establishment of public playgrounds.

Both of these measures are to be thoroughly discussed at the public mass meeting to be held in Calvary Baptist Church, Friday evening, January 27. The public is invited to attend the meeting, and reserved seats may be secured by application at the Associated Charities, 511 G Street northwest.

### S. H. KAUFFMANN PRESIDENT OF CORCORAN ART GALLERY

The board of trustees of the Corcoran Art Gallery met yesterday for the purpose of re-electing officers. The results were as follows:

President, Samuel H. Kauffmann; vice president and treasurer, Charles C. Glover; secretary and director, Frederick B. McGuire; assistant director, Powell Miningerode.

William Corcoran, Eustis, Thomas Hyde, Bernard, R. Green, John M. Wilson, Arthur J. Parsons, and R. Ross Perry are trustees.

### CHOLERA AND PLAGUE CLAIMS MANY RUSSIANS

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 17.—During the first week of the Russian new year twenty-three fresh cases of cholera and twenty-seven deaths from that disease have been reported from southern Russia. Fifteen deaths from Siberian plague during the same period have been reported from the Ural district.

## GROSS ADULTERATION OF FOODS AND DRUGS

Dr. Walters, of New York, Describes Widespread Frauds.  
No Genuine Olive Oil or Maple Sugar on the Market.

In view of the effort being made in the Senate to get consideration of the pure food bill at the present session, a great deal of interest has been evinced in a scientific article which has been shown to a number of members of the upper house to prove how extensively the adulteration of food is carried on.

The criticism of the present laxity of law on the subject and the advocacy of national legislation without delay comes from a well-known scientific investigator of New York city, Dr. Leon L. Walters, who has made an extensive research in the line of the pure food crusade in that city.

#### Dr. Walters' Research.

He says: "The results of my work have brought to light the existence of evils such as would surprise even you who are chemists. I think I am justified in saying that the pernicious habit is on the increase, and the brazen effrontery with which it is carried on indicates the indulgence of the American public."

"Labels have come to mean nothing. I doubt if pure olive oil is to be found in the market. Cottonseed oil is almost universally sold under that name. I have found in many cases that low priced vinegar is fortified by the addition of mineral acid. Cocoa is adulterated by an excessive amount of starch or with ground shells or sugar."

"It is an old, old story that ground coffee is mixed with powdered hog's liver and chicory, while even the whole coffee bean is duplicated by an artificial article of this form as to defy casual detection."

#### No Pure Maple Syrup.

"Pure maple syrup is almost an unknown quantity, and only at the time of this writing I had the means at hand of proving conclusively that a well known brand was being manufactured by boiling sugar, syrup and glucose with chips of maple wood."

"Whisky has been, and is now being manufactured by the use of so-called 'heading oils,' with various flavors and caramel coloring. The greater part of the gin consumed in this country has never been prepared from juniper berries."

"I have in my possession samples of borax delivered to New York, marked 'Pure Pacific Coast Borax' which contained not a trace of that substance."

#### Drugs and Medicines.

"One of the most nefarious operations of the adulterator is in connection with the drugs and medicines. Drugs often fail to act as they should, and this is due to adulteration. For instance, two years ago an investigation showed that phenacetine pills sold in New York were mixed with acetanilid."

"Green soap is seldom made as directed by the pharmacopoeia. Even quinine

pills are found containing less than the specified amount of alkaloid.

"You may ask what is being done to prevent this abuse. I am not in sympathy with those who are always demanding more legislation. There are sufficient laws on the statute books. If they were only enforced. Boards of health of the cities are vested with sufficient authority to put a stop to these evils."

"I am far from overlooking the work of Dr. H. W. Wiley looking toward the passage of a pure food bill. I would be the last to belittle these efforts, but the fact remains that the Hepburn bill will only apply to the District of Columbia and the Territories, and by regulating interstate commerce in these spurious articles."

"What is needed is the arousing of popular sentiment, so that pressure may be brought on the authorities such as will lead to the appropriation of sufficient funds to enforce the law. The best way to do this is to solicit the aid of the press, and it is in this way we hope to succeed in our fight."

### TO FORCE CORPORATIONS TO FILE STATEMENTS

Several persons interested in the local affairs of the District will petition Congress for enforcement of the law relative to local corporations filing their annual statements. They will hold a meeting in a few days and formulate plans. This coming year the heads of Congressmen Garfield's severe arraignment of the law, is significant of a growing movement to make all corporations comply with the requirements of the District corporation law.

#### A BOTTLE HE VALUED.

A funny thing occurred on a Pullman car the other night. A gentleman had gone to bed in one of the lower berths and thinking the upper berth would not be occupied placed his valise there. As the train filled up all the berths were taken. It became necessary for the porter to remove his valise and place it on the floor at the side of his berth. In going so he let the valise down with a jar that broke a bottle in it, the contents of which ran out. "Golly," he cried, "I have broken a bottle."

"Broken a bottle?" came a roar from behind the curtains, "did you break a bottle in my valise?" "Guess I did, sir."

"Do you know, porter, you have put the bottle to bed?" "Bottle of Bourbon, sir?" "No sir, it was a bottle of Red Raven, the only pleasant tasting aperitif water. I was to take it tomorrow before breakfast. You can't get any substitute for Red Raven. Nothing acts so gently on the liver or so good for a man after he has spent a night on the cars. I would rather have had you wreck the train than have broken that bottle."

"Do not get excited, sir," replied the porter. "I know the goods. Indeed they are excellent. Don't worry, you can get them on the diner in the morning."

## NICHOLSON WILL RULE GIBRALTAR

New Governor to Succeed  
Defender of Ladysmith.

### BRILLIANT SERVICE RECORD

Said to Be the Cleverest General in  
the British Army—Good  
Organizer.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—Lieut. Gen. Sir William Nicholson has been appointed governor and commander-in-chief at Gibraltar in succession to Sir George White, who will take up the governorship of Chelsea Hospital.

Sir William Nicholson, who is now with the Japanese army as attaché, has suffered from an attack of fever recently, and the change will probably facilitate his complete recovery.

#### Served in Afghan War.

He has a record of brilliant service in the Afghan war, 1878-9; the Egyptian expedition of 1882, and the Burmese expedition of 1886-7. In South Africa he served on the headquarters staff with Lord Roberts.

He is said to be the cleverest man in the army. That is why he is not at the war office.

The only thing against him, except his brains, is that he does not go out of his way to make himself popular. He just does his work, and does it well. Born in 1845, he entered the engineers twenty years later and fought in the Afghan war, marched to Candahar, fought in Egypt, Burmah, and the Tirah expedition.

#### Adjutant in India.

Then he was adjutant general in India, and was practically commander-in-chief, owing to the illness of his superior, Sir William Lockart. For his work in South Africa he was made a major general.

Tall, erect, and well proportioned, he is a fine looking man, and his manner, when he chooses, is irresistible—but he does not always choose.

It is as an organizer that he is best known. With him his work is everything. He works incessantly and tirelessly. Sport has little attraction for him. When in India he was practically invisible for social purposes, though he can be a sociable person when his work allows.

### GOVERNMENT GETS TITLE TO PRIAR LAND TRACTS

More than half of the \$7,000,000 appropriated for the payment of the friars' land in the Philippines has been paid out to the orders and the title to the land has passed to the Philippine government.

This money was disbursed through London banks.

## Curious Statistics Of Crime in Italy

More Homicides in the South, Where There  
Is Less Drinking Done—Murder Decreases  
While Thefts Are More Numerous.

ROME, Jan. 17.—Anyone judging of Italian society life solely by the columns of the Italian press might be tempted to imagine that deeds of violence form the normal amusement of great masses of the population.

The idea, as an Italian newspaper lately complained, has found acceptance with many people in Europe and the United States, who regard Italy as a country where sensational crime is the order of the day.

It is interesting, therefore, to see from the latest annual issue of the penal statistics, published recently, how Italy really stands in respect of crimes of violence.

#### Crime of Homicide.

The most salient fact which emerges from a dense forest of figures is the diminution in the number of homicides, which have fallen from an annual average of 4,822 during the eighties to 3,168, though, of course, the population has increased during the same period.

As might, perhaps, be expected, Sicily is the most homicidal district of the kingdom. There the number of homicides is as high as 27.35 for every 100,000 inhabitants. Second worst is Sardinia, with 22.38. Then follow fertile Campania with 22.23, and the mountainous Calabria, the former hunting ground of the brigand. Musoline, with 18.96.

#### North Italy Brags.

The northern Italians will not fail to point out that all these murderously-inclined regions are in the south, and on the islands, whereas the north, which is apt to pride itself on its virtues, can boast that there are only 2.64 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants in Lombardy, 2.75 in Venetia, and 5.13 in Piedmont. In central Italy the proportion is also low.

While homicides have diminished, thefts have increased. Here the unfortunate island of Sardinia, the Cindar-

ella of all the Italian provinces, is an easy first, and Venice, on the other hand, turns out to be the most honest.

#### Home of the Mafia.

Blackmailing and similar forms of extortion are most prevalent in Sicily, where the Mafia is rife. But the suburban population of Latium is the most rebellious against the civil authorities, and globe trotters will notice with interest that it is there, too, that begging—the ceaseless plague of the Roman streets during the season—is most common.

For the benefit of temperance reformers it may be chronicled that Liguria offers the widest field of missionary labor, while Sicily appears to be the most sober part of Italy.

#### Murder and Sobriety.

This suggests two observations—that the soberest district is also the most homicidal, a somewhat curious fact, and that, as we see in France, so in Italy, the south is more temperate than the north. Further south still, in southern Greece, drunken men are hardly ever seen.

On the whole, the figures are reassuring and show progress toward a higher moral city. What is sorely needed, however, is a more expeditious and less capricious administration of justice, fewer cases which recall the length of chancery suits in the days of old, and more certainly that big soundings, no less than the small fry, will be made to smart for their crimes.



Known the world over as  
a staple cough and voice  
lozenge. Sold only in boxes.

Miss some of the sweet things  
in life - but don't miss  
the pleasures of a box of

## Staylor's

COR.  
F AND 12TH STS.  
WASHINGTON,  
D.C.

CANDIES sent everywhere by Mail or Express.

Handsome Case  
**Fischer Piano**  
**For \$300**  
Original Price \$600  
Splendid Condition  
Senders & Stayman Co.  
1327 F St.

**Round Steak, 10c lb.**  
Porterhouse Steak, 14c lb.  
Sirloin Steak, 12c lb.  
**J. T. D. PYLES,**  
948 La. Ave.—6 Other Stores.

We manufacture everything we sell.  
Fine Confectionery at lowest prices.  
Delicious Ice Cream, all flavors, per  
gallon, \$1.60; 25c quart.  
Delicious Ice Cream Soda served at  
our fountain, per glass, 5c.  
**THE GREATER NEW YORK CON-  
FECTIONERY,**  
712 7th St. & 1022 M St. N. W.  
Jail-30t

**V. S. O. P.**  
FINEST  
**PENN. RYE.**  
A Famous Old Whiskey,  
\$2.00 bot.  
**The Shoemaker Co.**  
Established 1858.  
1331 E St. N. W. Phone Main 1155-M.

**Burn Coke For Cooking**  
Fuel for cooking is a big item in the home expense account, when Coal is used. But, when Coke is used you reduce the fuel bill to a small amount, and at the same time get the best results. We'll supply you Coke.  
25 Bushels Large Coke, delivered...\$2.50  
40 Bushels Large Coke, delivered...\$3.75  
25 Bushels Large Coke, delivered...\$3.50  
40 Bushels Cracked Coke, delivered...\$3.50  
25 Bushels Cracked Coke, delivered...\$3.50  
40 Bushels Cracked Coke, delivered...\$3.50  
**Washington Gaslight Co.**  
413 10th St. N. W.  
Jail-30t

**The Victor  
Talking Machine**  
Greatest discovery of the age. It talks, it sings, it plays every musical instrument. It is an orchestra and a band in itself. More fun and solid enjoyment from one of these instruments than anything you can find in the world. Prices from \$15 upward.  
**JOHN F. ELLIS & CO.,**  
937 Pa. Ave. N. W.

Best in the World  
**CERES**  
Fancy Roller Patent  
Ceres Flour makes more bread, makes whiter bread, makes better bread, than any other flour manufactured. Beware of imitations of the brand "Ceres."  
FOR SALE BY ALL GROCERS  
**MESCO OIL HEATERS.**  
When you invest in an Oil Heater get the up-to-date kind—safe, economical, no odor, don't smoke. Special price...\$4.50  
**John B. Espey,**  
Hardware 1010 Pa. Ave.

**HANDOLINE**  
Prevents Roughness of Skin.  
All Drug Stores... 25c

**WANT?  
HELP?**  
An "ad" in The Times  
always brings satisfactory results.

If You Need Anything in  
**FURNITURE**  
Buy Now While Prices Are at Their Lowest Level.  
**WE WILL TRUST YOU**

Selected Oak Dresser, large French bevel-plate glass, brass trimmings, well made and finished; regularly \$12.50. Special value—**\$8.79**

This large Solid Oak Dresser, extra size glass, prettily carved, swell front, heavy brass trimmings, well made and highly polished. Regularly \$21.75. Special—**\$14.69**

Heavy White Enamel Iron Bed, brass knobs and rails, extended footboard, high headboard and well finished. Special value,  
**\$2.95**

This pretty Continuous-post Iron Bed, white enamel, brass trimmings, very heavy, high headboard and footboard drops to floor. Worth \$13.00. Special—**\$9.45**

**Mayer & Co.,** 415-417  
7th Street N. W.

## WANT ADVERTISEMENTS

... FOR THE ...  
**EVENING AND SUNDAY TIMES**  
... WILL BE RECEIVED AT ...  
**William G. Gentner's Pharmacy**  
Fourteenth and U Sts. N. W.

**January Clearing Sales**  
**SKANNONSON'S**  
8th St & Pa. Ave.  
**"THE BUSY CORNER"**  
**SHOES**  
for Clearance  
All Sizes in Every Lot

**Women's \$3.50, \$4, and \$5 Shoes**  
THIS lot consists of all leathers, such as patent colt skin, kid skin, box calf, and velour calf, with Cuban or medium heels; lace or button styles. All sizes and widths. Choice of any of these shoes tomorrow at **\$2.69**

**Women's \$2, \$2.50, and \$3 Shoes**  
IN this lot are all leathers; lace or button; all style heels and toes. Not all sizes in one style, but all sizes in the lot. Choice at **\$1.29**

**Misses and Children's \$1.50 Shoes**  
LACE or button. All sizes and widths. Patent or kid tips. Choice of patent leather and kid skin. An excellent chance to buy new shoes for the children. **\$1.19**

**January Clearing Sales**  
**Winter Coats**  
A new wrap bought now will cost very little, and yet afford its owner a good deal of pleasure. These are the smartest winter styles brought out.

**\$10 Kersey Coats.** In castor and black, medium lengths, double breasted front, tight fitting backs; full sleeves. Clearance price **\$5.00**

**\$10.95 Cheviot Broadcloth and Zibeline Coats.** In several pretty styles, trimming in silk or velvet, or silk lined. Clearance price **\$6.98**

**Kersey Coats** in tan, castor, and brown. Also Covert Coats in medium lengths. Reduced from \$12.50 and \$13.50 to **\$8.75**

**\$15 Cheviot Coats.** 3/4-length, loose effect, stitched strap trimming; full sleeves. Clearance price **\$10.00**

**\$22.50 and \$25 English Covert Coats.** 3/4-length, in tight-fitting; trimmed in velvet; talker strapped. Clearance price **\$10.00**

**\$20 and \$25 Coats** of kersey, zibeline, fancy mixtures, and coverts, in 3/4 and medium lengths; some double-breasted tight-fitting others in loose effect. All are handsomely trimmed and lined. Clearance price **\$15.00**

**\$22.50 and \$25 Kersey and Montanese Coats.** semi-fitting and pleated styles; 3/4 length; elegantly lined. Clearance price **\$18.50**

Second Floor.

They act like Exercise.  
**Caracorets**  
-for the Bowels  
All Druggists  
Ten Cents